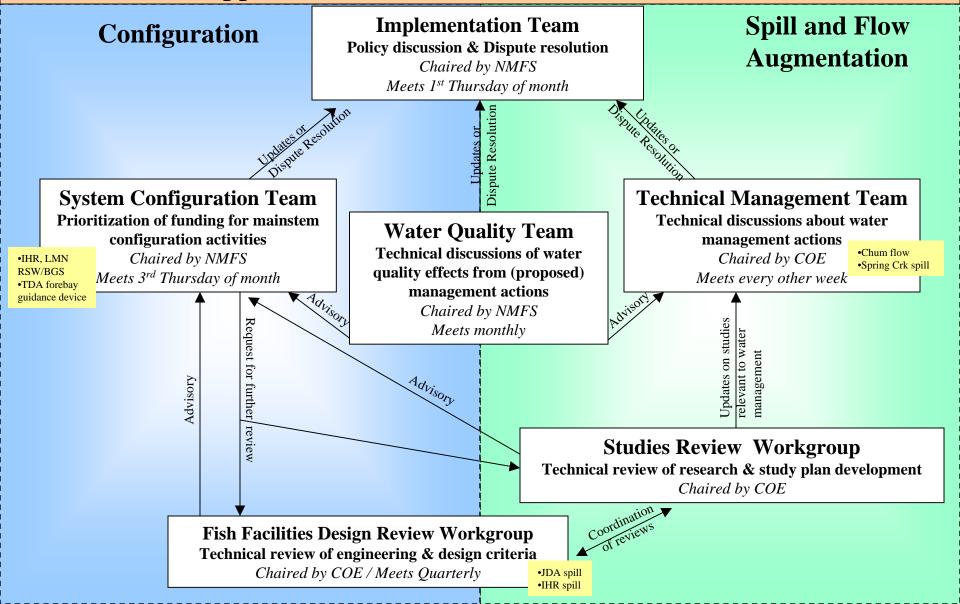
# Regional Forum Approach to Hydrosystem Alternatives to the Action Agencies 2003-07 Implementation Plan – Opportunities for State & Tribal Discussion



### **Draft IT Guidelines on Decision Making & Dispute Resolution**

The goal of the Regional Forum is to reach consensus on technical and policy issues whenever possible, with consensus being defined as the lack of strong objection. When consensus cannot be achieved in one of the technical teams or workgroups, the objecting member(s) may request the issue be elevated to the IT or Executive Committee as follows:

- 1. If consensus cannot be achieved in a technical team or workgroup, the federal agencies will state how they intend to proceed. A member objecting to the proposed action may request the issue be raised to IT, and the technical team will formulate a written description of the disagreement.
- 2. If consensus cannot be achieved at IT, the agency with decision-making authority will state how they intend to proceed.
  - If the decision relates to weekly in-season management, the member with authority to make the decision will make the final decision.
  - If it is not an in-season management decision, a member objecting to the action may request that the issue be elevated to the Executive Committee, and the IT will formulate a written description of the disagreement.
- 3. Members will make all reasonable efforts to present an issue for decision by IT or the Executive Committee in writing one week prior to the relevant meeting date. The Executive Committee or IT may decline to entertain an issue that is not sufficiently defined.
- 4. When all efforts to achieve consensus have been made, the agency with authority will make the final decision.

## **Upcoming Regional Forum Meetings**

#### **Implementation Team** (at NMFS)

- November 7, 12:30pm 4:30pm
- December 5, 9:00am 4:00pm
- January 9, 9:00am 4:00pm

#### **Technical Management Team** (at Corps)

- November 6, 9:00am 1:30pm
- November 20, 9:00am noon
- December 4, 9:00am noon
- December 18, 9:00am noon
- January 8, 9:00am noon
- January 22, 9:00am noon

#### **System Configuration Team** (at NMFS)

- November 21, 9:00am
- December 19, 9:00am
- January 23, 9:00am

#### **Water Quality Team** (at NMFS)

- November 12, 1:00pm
- December 10, 1:00pm
- January 14, 1:00pm

#### Fish Facilities Design Review Workgroup

Corps Portland District

- November 25, TDA Program Review
- December 12, JDA Program Review
- January 7

Corps Walla Walla District

- January 22-23
- April 23-24

#### **Study Review Workgroup** (at Corps)

- November 18-21, AFEP Program Review
- December 12 (w/ FFDRWG)